06 LC 37 0026

House Bill 1374

By: Representative Jackson of the 161st

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

## AN ACT

- 1 To amend Part 2 of Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia
- 2 Annotated, relating to fair business practices, so as to require retail businesses to refund cash
- 3 or credit card charges on certain consumer purchases; to provide for a definition; to provide
- 4 for penalties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
- 5 purposes.

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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 SECTION 1.

- 8 Part 2 of Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
- 9 relating to fair business practices, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as
- 10 follows:
- 11 "10-1-393.8.
- 12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'merchant' means any person who offers goods,
- wares, or merchandise for sale in this state to the public and shall include an employee of
- 14 a merchant.
- 15 (b) A merchant shall be prohibited from denying a consumer a cash refund or refund to the
- 16 consumer's credit card, depending on method of payment, upon return of goods, wares, or
- 17 merchandise in same condition as purchased within 72 hours of such purchase, provided
- the total of such purchase is \$1,000.00 or less.
- 19 (c) A merchant shall be in violation of this Code section if the consumer is required to
- accept an in-store credit.
- 21 (d) Any merchant who violates the provisions of this Code section shall be subject to the
- 22 penalties provided in this part."
- SECTION 2.
- 24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.